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F A X T R A N S M I T T A L

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Date: July 28, 2003 Attorney Docket: 206008  
Time: Application No. 09/622,382  
Number of pages (including Filing Date: January 12, 2001  
this transmittal cover sheet): 17

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Message: As promised, enclosed is a set of the claims of this application, showing the amendments that were made during prosecution.

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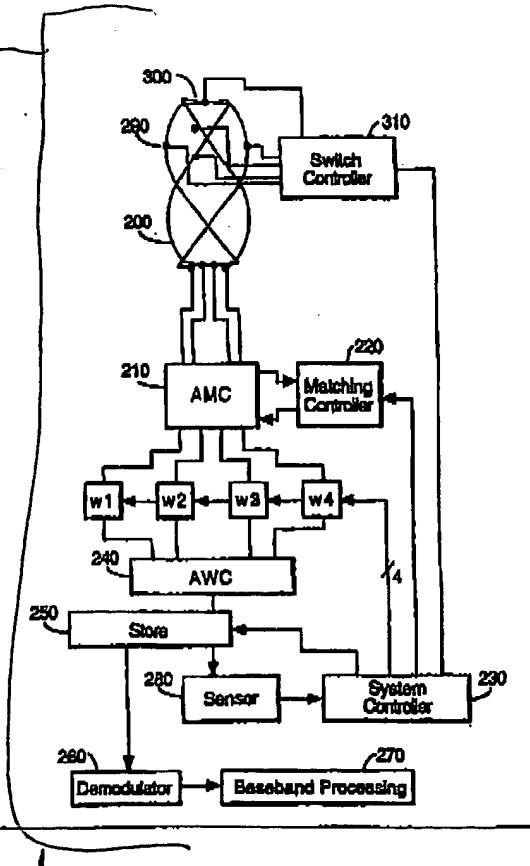
## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 :  H01Q 11/08, 5/00	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/41803  (43) International Publication Date: 19 August 1999 (19.08.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB99/00469		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GR, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
(22) International Filing Date: 15 February 1999 (15.02.99)		
(30) Priority Data: 9803273.3 16 February 1998 (16.02.98) GB		
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## (54) Title: ADAPTIVE MULTIFILAR ANTENNA

## (57) Abstract

A multifilar antenna (200) comprises n spaced antenna filaments, where n is an integer greater than 1; a matching circuit (210) for matching the characteristic impedance of the antenna to that of a transmitting and/or receiving apparatus; a weighting circuit (240) for applying respective gain and phase adjustments to signals passed to or from the n filaments; switch means (310) associated with each filament for selectively altering the electrical length and/or interconnections of the filaments; means for detecting electrical properties of the multifilar antenna with respect to the frequency, polarisation and/or direction of propagation of a signal to be received or transmitted by the multifilar antenna and/or impedance matching of the antenna; and control means (230), responsive to the detective means, for controlling the operation of the matching circuit (210), the weighting circuit (240) and the switch means (310) to adjust the properties of the multifilar antenna (200) to suit better a current signal to be received or transmitted.



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*09/622,382*CLAIMS

1. An adaptive multifilar antenna comprising:  
*a number of* <sup>said number</sup> *spaced filaments, where n is an integer greater than 1;*  
a matching circuit for matching the characteristic impedance of the antenna to that of a transmitting and/or receiving apparatus;  
a weighting circuit operable to apply respective phase adjustments to signals <sup>spaced</sup> passed to and/or from the *n* filaments;  
detecting means operable to detect at least one electrical property of the multifilar antenna with respect to the frequency, polarisation and/or direction of propagation of a signal to be received or transmitted by the multifilar antenna and/or impedance matching of the antenna; and  
control means, responsive to the detecting means, operable to control the operation of the weighting circuit to adjust the properties of the multifilar antenna to suit better a current signal to be received or transmitted.
2. An antenna according to claim 1, wherein the weighting circuit is operable to apply gain adjustments to signals passed to and/or from the *n* filaments.
3. An antenna according to claim 1-~~or claim 2~~, wherein the control means is operable to control the operation of the matching circuit to adjust the properties of the multifilar antenna to suit better a current signal to be received or transmitted.
4. An antenna according to <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any preceding claim~~, including switch means associated with each filament for selectively altering the electrical length and/or interconnections of the filaments and the signal connections to/from the filaments being at a first end of

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each filament; and

the switch means being operable to selectively interconnect pairs of filaments at a second end of those filaments remote from the first end.

*claim 1*

5. An antenna according to ~~any preceding claim~~, including switch means associated with each filament for selectively altering the electrical length and/or interconnections of the filaments and

each filament including at least a first filament section and a second filament section; and

the switch means being operable to selectively connect or isolate the first and second filament sections of each filament so as to vary the electrical length of that filament.

*claim 1*

6. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which:

the detecting means is operable to detect a signal to noise ratio of a received signal; and

the control means is operable to control the operation of the matching circuit and/or the weighting circuit so as to improve the signal to noise ratio of the received signal.

*claim 1*

7. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which:

the detecting means is operable to detect a signal to noise plus interference ratio of a received signal; and

the control means is operable to control the operation of the matching circuit and/or the weighting circuit so as to improve the signal to noise plus interference ratio of the received signal.

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*claim 1*

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8. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which:  
the detecting means is operable to detect a signal level of a received signal; and  
the control means is operable to control the operation of the matching circuit  
and/or the weighting circuit so as to improve the signal level of the received signal.

*claim 1*

9. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which:  
the detecting means is operable to detect a VSWR for a transmitted signal; and  
the control means is operable to control the operation of the matching circuit  
and/or the weighting circuit so as to improve the VSWR for transmission of that signal.

*claim 1*

10. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the detecting  
means comprises:  
analogue to digital conversion means for converting respective signals received by  
the filaments into corresponding digital representations;  
a memory for storing the digital representations;  
means for combining the digital representations using respective phase  
relationships and gains; and  
means for detecting properties of the antenna by analysis of the combined digital  
representations.

*claim 1*

11. An antenna according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~, in which the detecting means  
comprises:  
means for combining respective signals received by the filaments using respective  
phase relationships  
analogue to digital conversion means for converting the combined signals into a  
corresponding digital representation;

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a memory for storing the digital representation; and  
means for detecting properties of the antenna by analysis of the combined digital  
representations.

12. An antenna according to claim 11, wherein the combining means is operable to  
combine the respective signals using respective gain weightings.

*claim 1*

13. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the detecting  
means operates at least during reception of a reference signal burst by the antenna.

*claim 1**said number*

14. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which  $\pi$  is an even  
integer.

*claim 1**said number*

15. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which  $\pi$  is equal to  
4 or 6.

*claim 1*

16. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the filaments  
are helically shaped.

*claim 1*

17. An antenna according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the filaments  
are at least partially intertwined.

*claim 1*

18. An antenna according to ~~any preceding claim~~, having a volute of generally  
elliptical or rectangular axial cross-section.

*claim 1*

19. An antenna according to ~~any preceding claim~~, wherein the weighting circuit

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~~operates at baseband.~~~~claim 1~~~~20. An antenna according to any of claims 1 to 18, wherein the weighting circuit  
operates at RF~~

21. An antenna according to claim 20, wherein the respective outputs of the weighting circuit are combined prior to frequency downconversion.

22. An adaptive multifilar antenna comprising:

a number of

said number

$\lambda^x$  spaced antenna filaments, where  $x$  is an integer greater than 1;

a matching circuit for matching the characteristic impedance of the antenna to that of a transmitting and/or receiving apparatus;

a phasing circuit for applying respective gain and phase adjustments to signals passed to or from the  $n$  filaments;

switch means associated with each filament for selectively altering the electrical length and/or interconnections of the filaments;

means for detecting electrical properties of the multifilar antenna with respect to the frequency, polarisation and/or direction of propagation of a signal to be received or transmitted by the multifilar antenna and/or impedance matching of the antenna; and

control means, responsive to the detecting means, for controlling the operation of the matching circuit, the phasing circuit and the switch means to adjust the properties of the multifilar antenna to suit better a current signal to be received or transmitted.

23. A multifilar antenna substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings. canceled.